

Americans Who Are of Irish Birth or Descent

THEY Number Two Members of the United States Supreme Court and the President of the World's Greatest Industrial Corporation—The Man of Irish Blood Who Opened Up the Great Empire of the Northwest—An Irishman Planned and Another Built New York's Great Subway System—The President of the Country's Largest Savings Bank Is Irish, and So Is One of the Three Trustees Controlling One of the World's Greatest Life Insurance Companies—A Self-Made Irishman Is Our Ambassador to Europe's Most Exclusive Court—National Prominent Politicians Who Trace Back to the Emerald Isle—The Roman Catholic Hierarchy Largely Irish.

By E. J. Edwards

A PART from its religious significance, St. Patrick's day serves admirably as a reminder of the part played in the upbuilding of this republic by the Irish race. Its annual recurrence and more or less demonstrative celebration also direct attention to the fact that men and women of true Gaelic lineage continue to make themselves conspicuous in the affairs of the nation and that no other race which is a part of our composite nationality has done better service in the common cause.

If you should make a list of the leading men in any sphere of American life today, you would find among the foremost a goodly number of Irish birth or descent. It would be the same whether you looked over the field of law or finance, of politics or diplomacy, of education or religion. Leading positions in each of these fields are held by Irishmen. At the head of some of the greatest industries of the United States stand men of the Celtic race. Irishmen have planned or executed some of the greatest constructive work that has been achieved in this country, in the last quarter of a century, most notably in the development of railroads and other means of communication. But not merely in the church or in practical affairs have the Irish risen to eminence in this country. You will find them among those who have won fame in literature, music and the fine arts.

In Supreme Court

The man who holds the highest judicial position in this country, Edward Douglas White, chief justice of the United States, is of Irish descent. Associate Justice Joseph McKenna is also of Irish lineage. John Thomas McDonough, formerly chief judge of the Philippine islands, was born in Birr, Ireland, and came to this country when he was 7 years of age. For many years he has practiced law at Albany, N. Y. He was delegate-at-large to the New York state constitutional convention in 1894, and he was elected secretary of state in New York in 1898 on the ticket headed by Theodore Roosevelt, and he and Col. Roosevelt became warm personal friends as the result of their association in the state government. Col. Roosevelt had formed a very high opinion of Judge McDonough's ability as a jurist, and when the opportunity came four years later he named him for the highest tribunal in our island dependencies.

Justice Victor J. Dowling, John J. Delaney, Edward E. McCall and James Fitzgerald of the supreme court of New York state are Irishmen, and Irish also is former Justice Morgan J. O'Brien, who resigned a few years ago from the supreme court bench to resume the practice of the law, and is now one of the most prominent active members of the bar in New York City, besides being one of the three trustees of the majority stock of the Equitable Life Assurance society, thus giving him a fiduciary trust of world-wide importance. Another Irishman holding a prominent judicial position in New York is Chief Magistrate William McAdoo, formerly assistant secretary of the navy and later police commissioner of New York City. John J. O'Brien has been an associate justice of the Minnesota state supreme court since 1909.

Irish as Diplomats

Irishmen hold positions of the first rank in the diplomatic service of the United States. There is Richard C. Kerens of St. Louis, ambassador to Austria-Hungary, who was born in Ireland, and there is Thomas J. O'Brien, ambassador to Japan, of Irish descent. One of the most distinguished of American scholars, Maurice Francis Egan, who is now minister to Denmark, is an Irishman. Mr. Egan was formerly professor of English language and literature at the Catholic university at Washington, D. C., and he is a voluminous author, his literary output including not only writings on church and state, but also works of fiction and several volumes of poems. Mr. Egan has made researches at Elsinore, Denmark, that shed some new light on the problems presented by Shakespeare's "Hamlet." His reputation as a profound and brilliant scholar had long been established in Europe when he was named for his high diplomatic post, and his appointment was most gratifying to the learned society of the Danish capital.

No Irish lad that has ever come to this country in search of opportunity has had a more remarkable and picturesque career than has been that of Richard C. Kerens. From driving a mail wagon in the raw west of years ago to holding the post of ambassador to the most aristocratic court of Europe is a pretty good climb, though to those who know Mr. Kerens it doesn't seem so remarkable. They would tell you that "Dick" Kerens was bound to make a brilliant success.

Elkins Befriends Him

The late Senator Stephen B. Elkins, when he was out in New Mexico laying the foundation of his fortune after the close of the Civil war, became acquainted with Mr. Kerens. He took a strong liking to the young Irishman, and there grew up between them a warm personal friendship. There was nothing remarkable in this, for every body liked "Dick" Kerens. He had a bright, cheery way with him that won him friends wherever he went. He was a typical Irish blonde, with a fresh complexion and high color, slightly

curling hair and the bluest of blue eyes.

But the most attractive thing about him was his smile, which was, it has been said, as sunny as a May morning. He was well built, though of medium height, and he was perfectly capable of doing a little more than his share of hard work. Mr. Elkins, only a year older than Kerens, though of importance in territorial affairs, liked the earnest yet good natured way that young Kerens went about things, and soon came to have the utmost confidence in his character and ability. Their friendship was further cemented by their common admiration for James G. Blaine. Later, when they both attended Republican national conventions, there was no more enthusiastic Blaine man than Elkins and Kerens.

Fought on Union Side

As a lad in Iowa, Kerens had found employment that gave him some practical knowledge of the business of transportation. He went further west, in his early manhood after he had fought through the war on the Union side, with the idea of turning this to account, and succeeding in getting a government contract he established a mail route in the far southwest. At times he drove the horses himself. He prospered in this business, and after awhile branched out into other lines. His association with Mr. Elkins led to several business opportunities. Shrewd investments in real estate and mining ventures soon started him on the road to wealth, and sound judgment and application converted a modest competence into an imposing fortune. For although he possesses in a marked degree the sunny and emotional temperament of the Irish race, Mr. Kerens is, and always has been, a cool and clear-headed man of business.

Star Route Scandal

During the investigation of the star route scandal which took place under the administration of President Garfield efforts were made to connect Mr. Kerens in some way with transactions by which the federal government had been defrauded, but the most diligent inquiry failed to disclose anything against him. It was Mr. Elkins who really started the investigation. Having learned that by means of fraudulent mail contracts, obtained through the connivance of federal officials, the government had been swindled out of large sums of money, Mr. Elkins laid the facts before the authorities at Washington. When he heard of the efforts of the authorities to discover some evidence implicating Mr. Kerens, he told them frankly that they would find nothing.

"I have complete confidence in Kerens," Mr. Elkins said. "He would rather cut off his right hand than take a dishonest dollar. I know him, and he is absolutely straight and true." Charles Edward O'Brien, who has had a distinguished public career, and is well known as a diplomatist, is the son of Irish parents. He has held the position of commissioner of docks in New York city, and he was appointed chief of the bureau of immigration and minister plenipotentiary to Paraguay and Uruguay by President Roosevelt.

Leaders in Finance

In the realm of finance you will find among the leading and most influential figures many men of Irish stock. Typical are such men as Thomas Fortune Ryan, who rose from clerk in a Baltimore dry goods house to be a powerful man in Wall street, a man whose vast financial interests extend to every part of the country. John D. Crummins, probably the most successful contractor in the country, who has built many important public works in some of the largest cities of the United States, and has large interests in real estate and leading financial institutions in New York; Stephen Kelly, president of the Fifth National bank of New York; Clarence H. Mackay, one of the nation's great financiers, and John W. Mackay, and Thomas M. Mulry, president of the Emigrant Industrial Savings bank of New York, the greatest institution of its kind in the country, with deposits aggregating \$101,000,000, and surplus and undivided profits amounting to \$9,000,000.

By virtue of his position Mr. Mulry, it would seem, should be one of the best known of men to bankers, and yet the fact is that he is not nearly so well known in banking circles as he is in some other quarters. This is due to a trait of personal character, which he has in common with many other able business men. It might be said to be a disposition to shrink from any merely personal prominence. It is not the result of timidity or any lack of assertiveness, for it is found combined with great vigor and aggressiveness in matters of purely business concern. In a way it may be said to be a disposition to submerge the personality in the business interest with which it is associated, and something of this sort seems to have happened in Mr. Mulry's case. His personality, in the banking world, appears to be merged in and concealed by the great institution of which he is the head and the guiding spirit.

Generous Charities

Mr. Mulry is well known, however, in Catholic benevolent circles, and among workers in charitable lines, for his interest in philanthropic work is intense and he has devoted much of his time and means to it. He has not always

RICHARD C. KERENS, AMBASSADOR TO EUROPE'S MOST EXCLUSIVE COURT.

been able to prevent his left hand from knowing what his right hand is doing in the matter of benevolences, though it is suspected that he has succeeded in this to a considerable extent. It is understood that he was one of the largest contributors to the fund that was raised to pay off the \$500,000 mortgage on St. Patrick's cathedral in New York, thus making the recent consecration of the cathedral possible.

Mr. Mulry is a man of medium height and stocky build with dark hair and eyes, and a heavy black beard. He is very quiet and unassuming in manner, and though grave and serious in demeanor, is not in the least an austere man. In politics he is a Democrat and he is affiliated with the local Democratic organization of New York City, with which he is very popular. Mr. Mulry could have had any office for which the New York City Democracy could have named him, but he is averse to holding public office and over and over again he has declined nominations and appointments. His recommendation or endorsement of a candidate is known to have great weight.

Averse to Politics

Mr. Mulry is a man who takes broad views of affairs and subordinates personal or minor considerations to those of a general nature. During the troublous financial times of Cleveland's second administration, when the "endless chain" was draining the United States treasury of gold, Mr. Mulry displayed this quality of his mind in a notable way. To restore the gold reserve in the treasury, Mr. Cleveland resorted to an issue of some \$50,000,000 of bonds which were taken by New York bankers. The gold thus obtained was quickly drained from the treasury, and a second bond issue was decided upon by the administration. The negotiations for the floating of this second issue of bonds in New York resulted in some friction, and some of the bankers were rather disposed to hold aloof. A conference of New York bankers was called to consider the matter and Mr. Mulry was one of those who participated. When the discussion had revealed that there was something of an undercurrent of adverse sentiment, Mr. Mulry said:

"Gentlemen, this is a matter in which the credit and the honor of our government are concerned. It is our patriotic duty to assist in any way that we can, and no questions of personal feeling ought to stand in the way of our doing so."

The view advanced by Mr. Mulry became that of the conference, and the second issue was taken up.

Developers of Industries

James J. Hill, the great railroad builder and developer of the northwest, was born in Canada of County Ulster parents. Alexander E. Orr, to whose untiring efforts for ten years is due very largely the fact that New York city has a rapid transit subway, was born in Strabane, County Tyrone. As president of the Rapid Transit commission Mr. Orr took the chief part in solving the innumerable difficult problems presented by the rapid transit project. John S. McDonald, the contractor who built the big underground railroad, was also born in Ireland. Thus two of the men to whom the achievement of this gigantic undertaking is chiefly due are of Irish birth, a fact in which Irishmen may surely take a reasonable pride.

Heads U. S. Steel

The present head of the greatest manufacturing corporation in the world, James A. Farrell, of the United States Steel corporation, is an Irishman. It was explained at the time of his election that he had been chosen because of the wonderful way in which he had built up the export trade of the company while in charge of that branch of the business. One of the directors of the steel corporation, speaking recently of Mr. Farrell, said:

"He is a great merchant, the word being used as meaning one who sells



Thomas M. Mulry, President of the country's largest savings bank.

goods. Mr. Farrell knows how to sell goods. His gift in this respect is as great as was that of A. T. Stewart, which amounted to genius. Farrell is one of the very greatest merchants this country has ever produced."

There are some people in New Haven, Conn., who remember Mr. Farrell as one of the boys who worked in a saw mill on Grapevine Point, which lies between New Haven and East Haven. Now that he has become famous they like to recall that he used to walk two miles from his home to his work every morning, and that he was never late on the job.

Another Irishman who has achieved great business success is ex-Senator Edward Murphy of Troy, N. Y. Senator Murphy has made a fortune as a manufacturer and banker, and he has had a notable career in politics, having been for several years Democratic state leader of New York, and having served in the United States senate from 1892 to 1899. James B. Haggis, the millionaire mine owner, is also of Irish stock.

Senators and Mayors

The Irishman's liking and aptitude for politics are well recognized, and you will find Irishmen among the most successful and influential politicians in almost any place of considerable size in this country. George Tenor Oliver,



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SENATOR GEORGE T. OLIVER OF PENNSYLVANIA



MAYOR JOHN F. FITZGERALD OF BOSTON

United States senator from Pennsylvania, was born in Ireland, January 22, 1848. John Kinley Tener, governor of Pennsylvania, comes from County Tyrone, landing in America when he was 3 years of age. John Burke, Democratic chief executive of North Dakota, is an Irish-American. Senator Thomas N. Carter of Montana, who managed Harrison's second campaign for the presidency, is an Irishman. The lower house of congress contains a noticeable quota of native-born Irishmen and Irish-Americans. Charles F. Murphy, leader of Tammany Hall, and Roger C. Sullivan, Democratic national committeeman from Illinois, each of whom will have a pretty considerable influence at the next Democratic national convention, as things look now, are Irish.

Irishmen are the mayors of some of our best known and oldest cities. John F. Fitzgerald of Boston has all the experience of the Irish temperament. Good business man and shrewd politician as he is, he has the high spirits and bonhomie of the heroes of Chaucer's tales. If the toastmaster after a dinner should say that everybody would have either to make a speech or sing a song, Mayor Fitzgerald, if present, could tell the company to take their choice. He can do both.

Other Irish Mayors

There are other Irish mayors of old New England towns—J. E. Cahill of Lawrence, Mass.; John H. Meehan of Lowell, Mass.; and Mayor Patrick Boyle of Newport, R. I., to mention only three. In other parts of the country it is the same story. Mayor J. Barry Mahool of Baltimore is Irish. So is Mayor P. H. McCarthy of San Francisco, and you can add to the list Mayor Thomas Maloney of Council Bluffs, Ia., and Mayor Charles H. Farrell of Kalamazoo, Mich. The most prominent influential pairs in national, state and municipal politics have been played by the two brothers, John C. and William F. Sheehan of New York. John C. Sheehan was for a time leader of Tammany Hall, and subsequently was head of the Greater New York Democracy, which in coalition with reform element, defeated Tammany and elected Seth Low mayor in 1901. John C. Sheehan has been out of politics and has been devoting himself to business for several years. William F. Sheehan, as a very young man, was speaker of the New York state assembly. In 1891 he was elected lieutenant governor. He was one of the chief managers of the campaign that resulted in the nomination of Judge Alton B. Parker for president, and today he is his party's caucus nominee to succeed Chauncey M. Depew in the United States senate.

Among orators, W. Bourke Cockran, who was born in Ireland, is in the front rank. Victor Herbert, the famous

of America, is of Irish blood. Of Irish birth is Rear Admiral Joseph T. Miller, who was in many engagements in the Civil war; Timothy J. Sheehan, a distinguished United States officer and noted Indian fighter, was born in County Cork, and another Irishman by birth is William H. Maxwell, the noted educator, superintendent of public schools in New York since 1908.

Cardinal Is Irish

Cardinal Gibbons, at the head of the Roman Catholic hierarchy of the United States, born at Baltimore, taken to Ireland by his parents in infancy, and received part of his education in that country. Of the three archbishops in America, nine are Irish by descent, although only four of the—John M. Farley of New York, John J. Glennon of St. Louis, John J. Keane of Dubuque—were born in the Emerald Isle. Among the ninety odd bishops this communion in the United States a large majority are Irishmen, some of the best known being native born. In the latter class are Thomas M. Burke of Albany, James Ryan of Altoona, Thomas Bonanum of Lincoln, James McFaul of Trenton, John P. McManis of Philadelphia and Laurence Scanlan of Salt Lake.

Thus the list might be continued indefinitely. But already it is impossible to list so many names as to make a statement that men of Irish birth or descent are to be found in large number among the leaders in every walk of American American life today. (Copyright, 1911, by E. J. Edwards, rights reserved.)

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composer, was born in Dublin, and is a grandson of Samuel Lover, the Irish novelist. Chauncey Olcott, the actor, was born in Buffalo. Among painters could be mentioned Edward Gay, among authors, Peter Finley Dunne, better known as "Mr. Dooley," and Harvey J. O'Higgins, among inventors, John P. Holland, the builder of submarine boats, and Patrick B. Delany, formerly associated with Edison. John Mitchell, the well-known labor leader, long head of the United Mine Workers

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Depart.	Daily.	Arrive.
7:10 A.M.	Ogden, Denver, Omaha, Kansas City, Chicago and Intermediate.	7:55 A.M.
8:00 A.M.	Ogden, Logan, Pocatello, Boise, Marysville and Intermediate. Montpelier going.	10:15 P.M.
10:00 A.M.	Ogden and Intermediate points.	6:55 P.M.
11:55 A.M.	Los Angeles Limited—Omaha, Chicago, Denver, St. Louis.	4:45 P.M.
1:00 P.M.	Overland Limited—Omaha, Chicago, Denver, Boise, Portland, Butte and Intermediate.	4:30 P.M.
2:30 P.M.	Ogden, Boise, Portland, Butte and Intermediate.	4:55 P.M.
2:30 P.M.	Overland Limited—Ogden, Reno, Sacramento, San Francisco.	3:30 P.M.
3:10 P.M.	Ogden, San Francisco and Intermediate points.	6:55 P.M.
4:15 P.M.	Ogden, Brigham, Cache, Valley, Malad and Intermediate.	11:35 A.M.
5:20 P.M.	Ogden, Denver, Omaha, Chicago (Park City and West Return).	1:25 P.M.
6:00 P.M.	Forty-five Minute Ogden Flyer.	9:15 A.M.
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